

AN INVERTED BRAIN.

CHILD SEES, READS AND WRITES UPSIDE DOWN.

Seven-Year-Old California Girl, Who Lives in a World that Seems Bottom-side Up and Backward—Her Case a Puzzle.

There is a 7-year-old girl in Alviso, Cal., who lives in a world all her own. Nobody would want to share her world with her, because it is a topsy turvy one—so very topsy turvy that it makes the head dizzy just to think about it. Little Mary Terry sees everything bottom-side up and backward. The experiences that each day brings to this child in real life are more remarkable than those which befell Alice in Wonderland, for Alice was fiction and Mary is fact.

This sole inhabitant of topsy turvydom is the daughter of a Portuguese rancher near Alvarado. For two years she has attended the Alviso public school. She is a pretty child, shy and graceful, with rosy coloring and black hair. Her case puzzles the wise men of the West. So far as is known, a similar instance has not been brought to the attention of science.

It was nearly a year before her teacher, Miss Carrie Parrish, discovered the strange peculiarity of Mary. The first six months' work in the receiving class consists mainly of the teaching of English. From the first Mary appeared timid and seemed slower of comprehension than the other members of her class. Nobody could understand why she did not learn faster. For a whole year her strange hieroglyphics appeared utterly meaningless to her teacher, who could only wonder at their invariable incorrectness. One day a certain method in their madness became apparent to Miss Parrish. Then she discovered that her little pupil was not only writing everything upside down, but was re-

written children, being the nearest approach to this perversity of vision. In cases of mirror-writing, unconsciously produced as a correct copy of ordinary writing, paralysis of the right side is often found.

A simple inversion of things, without the accompanying reversion, is a fairly common conception, and the attempt to conceive of the various physical and psychical phenomena consequent on living in an upside-down world, has



been made the subject of practical experiment in San Francisco, when G. M. Stratton, A. M., professor of psychology at Berkeley University, made his famous looking-glass experiments. But neither of these reached the unique point of view which is Mary Terry's peculiarity. The other day at the school, in looking at the words on the

plate and two heated copper plates at the same time in such a way that the copper forms a skin over the surfaces of the steel and gives it all the weather resistance that pure copper has.

On his desk in the standard oil offices in this city Frank Rockefeller has a small sheet of the new material, no name for which has yet been selected. The sheets were the size of letter paper, and so thin as not to be much heavier. The steel itself was several times as thick as the copper, and yet on each surface of the steel there was a perfect skin of copper, so thin that a strong magnifying glass did not expose the edges. To all appearances the sheet was all copper, but its springiness showed that it was not.

Although he has had considerable correspondence with the inventor, Mr. Rockefeller has not yet met him. Last summer the inventor sent some samples of his new sheet metal to Mr. Rockefeller, who had an idea that such plates of greater thickness would be valuable material for making steel lake steamers. He arranged with Captain McDougall to tow a model made of the new material behind one of his whalebacks for a trip up and down the lakes, to see how it would stand the experience. When the model came back the copper skin over the steel plates was as shiny as when it had been put into the water. Whether it is along this line, or in the making of stamped articles of use and ornament such as gas chandeliers, cornices and roofings, that the new material will be used, will in a measure depend on the cost of production under actual conditions.

"I think that the invention is one of the most remarkable that has come to my notice, and people are all the time trying to get me into something of that sort," said Mr. Rockefeller. "The copper and steel are all rolled at the same time, and in the finished plate, no matter whether it is thick or thin, the copper is united with the steel so that it is impossible to break or strip it off. It is practically a single thickness of metal with a copper surface on either

KINGS AS PRISONERS.

RULERS WHO HAVE FALLEN IN-TO ENGLAND'S HANDS.

How Britain Treats Her Royal Captives, of Whom She Has Had Several Within a Very Few Years—General Cronje at St. Helena.

An insight may be gained as to treatment in store for leaders of the Boer republics who may suffer defeat and fail to escape into either German or Portuguese territory by comparison with that of princes and kings held captive heretofore by the British government. In 1849 when the State of Maharajah Dhuleep Singh was finally annexed to the Indian empire, that potentate was "requested" to take up his residence in England—the inducement of a ready compliance being added by the promise of a yearly income of \$240,000, with nothing at all as an alternative. Dhuleep Singh wisely acquiesced, purchased the fine estate of Brandon in Norfolk, upon which he resided for many years as a wealthy English country gentleman.

Though during this period the maharajah frequently expressed the desire to revisit his native country, professing the utmost loyalty to the empress queen, yet he was never permitted to travel east of the isthmus of Suez. In this case the bond seems to have descended upon the heads of his children, for while his sons have entered the British army and one of them, Prince Victor, recently married the daughter of the Earl of Coventry, yet they have never been allowed to set eyes on the land over which their ancestors ruled.

Approaching Calcutta on the left bank of the Hujli River at Garden Beach the visitor will have pointed out the fine palace of the late Wajid Ali, King of Oudh. There from 1856 until a recent date this prince was held in semi-captivity upon an annual allowance of \$600,000, the only proviso as to his freedom of action being that he should not leave the vicinity of Calcutta. The King of Oudh, true to those prodigal hereditary instincts which brought about his downfall, not only managed to expend this large sum, but in the keeping of snake mounds, menageries and other costly forms of amusement dear to the oriental mind was obliged to draw frequently upon the imperial treasury for further amounts. The generosity and leniency with which he was thus treated was probably due to the fact that he offered no armed resistance to his own deposition. Blazing with jewels and seated in a smart equipage, with servants in royal liveries, the King of Oudh was often a conspicuous figure on the Calcutta maidan—the famous park where the society of the Indian capital takes an outing after the heat of the day has passed.

Far different was the fate of the poor old Bahadur Shah, last of the Great Moguls. After the fall of Delhi in 1857 he was tried for high treason and sent as a state prisoner to Rangoon. There, in a small hut, the only lineal descendant of Shah Jehan and Aurangzeb passed the remainder of his days, unnoticed and upon a mere pittance. As, however, both of his sons were slaughtered and a less culpable rebel leader, Tantia Topi, was executed, he may have thought himself fortunate to escape with his life.

Near Colombo, in Ceylon, England still holds in light durance Arabi Pasha and his colleagues of the Egyptian rebellion of 1882. While Arabi has not ceased to bemoan his fate and uselessly petition the British government for permission to return to Egypt, yet, considering the nature of his offense, and that he was sentenced to death, his lot cannot be considered burdensome. Provided with an income sufficient for his wants, a pleasant residence, permission accorded him to receive visitors and a considerable measure of freedom within the district, he would undoubtedly have been worse off had his successful enemies been his own race and religion.

Of minor potentates England has at present one African, being confined to the limits of that island in the South Atlantic made famous as the prison of the great Napoleon, and another even the far less desirable residence of Cape Coast Castle. For several years Cetewayo, king of the Zulus, was held an unresigned prisoner at Ghowe, near the scene of the present military operations in Natal, where he died before the promise of restoration to his throne was carried into effect.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

MONOPOLY IN CABLE BUILDING.

England Alone Can Lay Telegraph Lines Across the Great Ocean.

There are no American makers of ocean cable, so the insertion of a clause in the Pacific cable bill by the House Committee on Commerce, providing that "the cable shall be of American make, and that the cable ships shall fly the American flag," is considered by President Scrymger of the Pacific Cable Company to be likely to affect the rapidly and thoroughness of the work.

He said to-day: "We in America never have done that work, and the plants, the capital and, above all, the experience, which are required for ocean cable-making cannot be improvised under the touch of a government undertaking. A look at the history of cable-making for ocean lines will show why we haven't done the work and why we cannot do it offhand, even if we try."

"Practically all ocean cables, from the first transatlantic line in 1857 up to the present day, have been made in England, and English firms have a practical monopoly of the experience. The first Atlantic cable was made by Glass, Elliot & Co. The failure of this and the loss of the second resulted in the formation of a great company—the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company—backed by great capital, and this company made a success of the third cable and gave impetus to further work of the sort. But the necessary experience had been expensive and England was the first to acquire it. Then, in 1870, when England paid \$60,000,000 for the land telegraph lines of the islands, that capital went at once into plants and ships for making and laying ocean cable. Thus England had the lead. To make the cable in America we would have to have a big plant and a good many men of practical experience in such work."

"For this, a large investment, far into the millions, would be required, and if the cable, when laid, should fail in any way, its makers would suffer a dead loss of all their work and have to replace the cable at their own cost. Then there must be some ten ships of at least 4,500 tons specially constructed for the work. Each ship requires a full outfit of apparatus for every branch of the work and to be manned by men of experience. All this equipment is found only in England. Evidence of this appears in the course taken by Germany in the matter of the new German cable to New York, via the Azores. Germany wanted a cable she could be sure of and wanted it quickly—just the situation at present of the United States. She guarantees about 7 per cent. of the whole cost, and then the cable is made in England. That shows the German appreciation of this need of experience and great equipment."—New York Evening Post.

Would Bag Him to Shoot.

This young fellow is engaged to a pretty Detroit girl, but they don't care to publish the bans until after Lent, says the Detroit Free Press. This disturbs an irascible old uncle of hers, who has a daughter of his own, too much after his own style to be a favorite. He took it upon himself to send for the young man the other day.

"Are you going to marry that niece of mine?" he asked sternly, when they were alone in the inner office.

"Pardon me, sir, but I must decline to answer. She has a father and a mother, and I'm on good terms with them. I fall to see that it is your affair."

"There's a whole lot that you fail to see, young man. I'm really the head of our family, and I'll not shirk my duty. Her parents are a couple of chumps. Are you or are you not engaged?"

"You force me to say, sir, that it is none of your infernal business, and that you are just what I thought you were, a sour, cross-grained old curmudgeon."

"See here, sonny, I'll not bandy words with the likes of you, but if you had been going with my daughter as long as you have my niece I wouldn't do a thing but put a revolver to your head, informing you that if you didn't marry her I'd shoot."

"And I'd beg of you to shoot."

Very Complimentary Advice.

Through carelessness on the part of the committee of a well-known London club, and some dexterous wire-pulling by the individual concerned, an exceedingly unpopular man contrived to secure his election; but he soon made himself generally obnoxious to his fellow-members by continually posing and swaggering on the steps at the entrance.

One morning, not long after he had taken up his customary position, a prominent member of the club, whom we will call Major Dash, came up the steps, and in passing him said, with quiet sarcasm:

"I say, K—, I could get subscriptions to the tune of five hundred pounds for you in the club if you would only take your name off the books."

K— rushed off in a tremendous rage to a friend of his with the story.

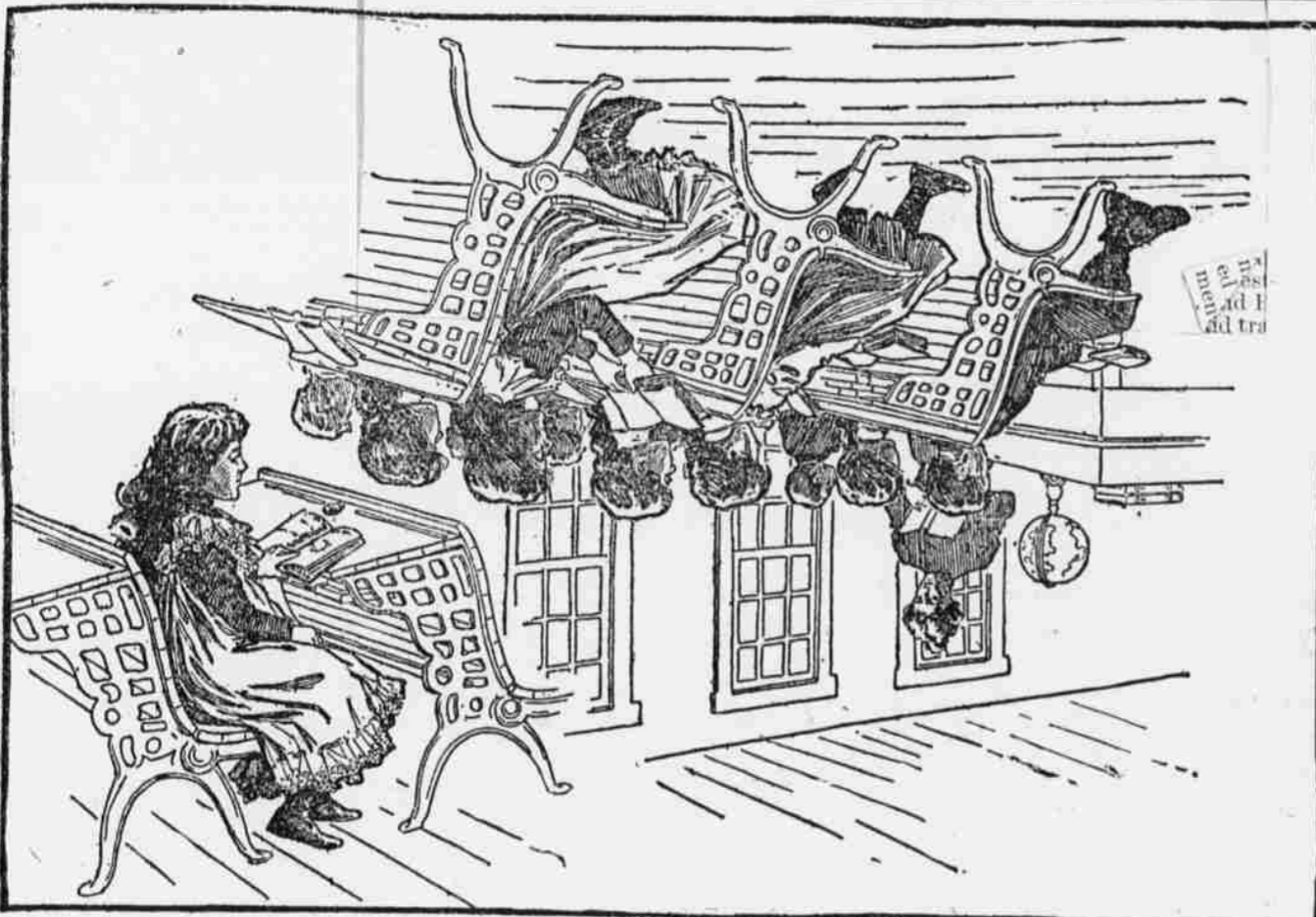
"What do you think?" he shouted. "I have been outrageously insulted by that Major Dash. He has just said that if I would take my name off the club books he would get up a subscription of five hundred pounds for me. What would you do?"

"Well," replied his friend, "if I were you, I wouldn't take it. You stand out a bit, and you'll get a thousand."

Human Nature.

Mr. Tigg—I don't see how that Montreal girl could sleep sixty days.

Mrs. Tigg (speaking from observation)—Probably some one kept calling her to breakfast right along.—Baltimore American.



THE WAY THE SCHOOL ROOM APPEARS TO MARY TERRY.

versing everything that she wrote. If you will take a sheet of paper, write your name on it, turn it upside down, reverse the sheet and hold it up to the light you will see what Mary Terry sees when she has the pleasure of beholding your honorable signature.

Since the date of her discovery it has been a perpetual struggle for Miss Parrish to keep pace with her pupil's peculiar point of view, and after patient effort, most praiseworthy on the part

blackboard, she seemed to be trying to peer over them—to the other side, which is exactly the mental attitude necessary to the ordinary observer for the conception of the origin of Mary's kind of writing.

It is apparently impossible for her, until she has been over the letters, to understand their meaning. Imagine the mental gymnastics required of that little head. It was amusing to see Mary hold her reader indifferently upside down or rightside up, reading equally well in either case.

Doctors express the belief that the defect in Mary's make-up is mental, rather than physical. That as an image reflected on the retina is inverted, and that as it is a mental effort only which enables man to see things right side up, it must be a mental lack in Mary's case which hinders her from seeing as the rest of mankind sees.

JUST LIKE TEMPERED COPPER.

New Combination of Metals Which Is Expected to Be Very Useful.

By a new process of rolling a Massachusetts genius has succeeded in attaining results that, so far as sheet metal work is concerned, are almost equal to what he would be able to accomplish if he had rediscovered the secret of tempering copper. The Massachusetts genius has succeeded, according to the Cleveland Leader, in getting Frank Rockefeller, brother of the president of the Standard Oil Company, and himself a very rich man, interested in the matter.

The inventor has succeeded in making sheets of seemingly pure copper of wonderful thinness and with the springiness, strength, and capacity for being tempered that steel has. The process consists in rolling a hot steel

or both sides, whichever way it is made, and it can be made either way."

Herb Farms.

There are several kinds of farms, profitable ones, too, of which little mention is made to the public. Many herbs are grown on farms devoted to them, and they are a product not overdone by growers. In New York are acres devoted to the growth of peppermint. In Illinois are farms where the castor bean is raised for the castor oil that it contains. Many farms which have lost their productiveness could be made to grow sage, catnip, thoroughwort, and the other vegetable necessities of the pharmacopoeia. The business is one of the few that are not ruined by competition. Rose farms are to be found in different sections of the country, and there is a sweetness in this method of earning a livelihood, although that is not all there is in it by a good deal. In California some rose farms are carried on to raise roses for rose jelly.

Scrupulously Clean.

In the matter of personal cleanliness the Filipino is equaled only by the Japanese. Men, women and children seem to take pride in being clean; yet their houses are untidily kept, and they make not even the simplest kinds of sanitary arrangements.

Starling Follows the Sparrow.

The English starling has been brought to New York and is domesticating itself rapidly. Although introduced only a year or two ago, it has increased considerably in numbers and in many of the uptown streets its musical piping can be heard this spring.

A tender feeling for the wife of another man isn't legal tender.



of a teacher who is in constant charge of four and five different grades of pupils, Miss Parrish has succeeded in making the little girl understand that to be herself understood she must reverse and invert what she sees.

It would seem as if Mary were not less but more gifted than the average child to have been capable of understanding the complex and difficult command laid upon her, though the testimony of experts is all on the other side. This is, however, reasoning by analogy, as the writer has so far found no identical case in optical annals, spiegelchrift or mirror-writing, which is found to be common among half-